

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 189482
ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY NEA/IAI:DAKORN/MPH;LHW
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-----085145 270633Z /15

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 189482

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EG, IS

SUBJECT:ISRAELI MILITARY DELEGATION IN EGYPT

REF: (A) CAIRO 17727, (B) TEL AVIV 9484

1. IN ADDITION TO CAIRO AND TEL AVIV REFTELS REPORTING
SADAT'S ORDERING THE ISRAELI MILITARY COMMUNICATIONS TEAM
OUT OF THE COUNTRY, WE SEE THAT THE STORY HAS NOW REACHED
THE PRESS. PRESS AND RADIO REPORTS FROM TEL AVIV, CITING
ISRAELI DEFENSE MINISTRY SOURCES, SAY EGYPTIANS HAVE ASKED
THE ISRAELI MILITARY DELEGATION TO RETURN HOME AND THAT A
SPECIAL PLANE WILL BE SENT TO ALEXANDRIA TOMORROW TO BRING
THE GROUP BACK.

2. WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO GET IN TOUCH WITH SADAT RIGHT

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AWAY, OR IF YOU CANNOT REACH HIM DIRECTLY TO GET MESSAGE TO
HIM THROUGH MUBARAK OR KAMEL, AND TO TELL HIM OF OUR
SURPRISE AT THIS MOVE. YOU SHOULD MAKE CLEAR THAT WE ARE
CONCERNED ABOUT EFFECT ON FUTURE TALKS. ISRAELIS SEEM TO
BE PLAYING IT DOWN IN INITIAL REACTION, BUT WE FEAR IT
COULD STRENGTHEN THE OPPONENTS OF FLEXIBILITY IN ISRAEL AND
WEAKEN THE HAND OF WEIZMAN AND OTHER MODERATES. IT WILL

ALSO GIVE US DIFFICULTIES HERE AND REVERSE TO SOME EXTENT
RECENT GAINS FROM LEEDS CASTLE CONFERENCE.

3. NOW THAT THE ORDER HAS BEEN GIVEN AND AS IT
BECOMES PUBLIC IT
OBVIOUSLY BECOMES DIFFICULT IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE FOR SADAT
TO RESCIND IT (IN THIS RESPECT SADAT HAS PUT HIMSELF IN
EXACTLY THE SAME POSITION AS IN THE CASE OF EGYPTIAN
PULL OUT FROM JERUSALEM POLITICAL COMMITTEE). IN
ADDITION TO MAKING KNOWN OUR CONCERN, AT YOUR DISCRETION
IF YOU SEE OPENING YOU MIGHT RAISE POSSIBILITY OF A DELAY
IN IMPLEMENTATION. WE WOULD THEN HAVE TIME TO LOOK FOR
WAYS TO PREVENT THE ISSUE FROM CLOUDING PROSPECTS FOR THE
NEXT ROUND OF PEACE TALKS.

4. CAIRO 17775 JUST RECEIVED, ALONG WITH SPECIAL CAPTION
MESSAGE. IN LIGHT OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS, WE WILL LEAVE
TO YOUR DISCRETION HOW YOU MIGHT HANDLE FOREGOING POINTS
IN WAY THAT WILL NOT BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE.
CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

NNN

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